Applicant: STARZ, et al. Serial No.: 09/915,764 Filing Date: July 27, 2001

Amendment and Reply to Office Action - March 21, 2005

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Amendments to the specification:

Please amend page 3, lines 20-22 as follow:

Page 3, line 12 through 25:

Furthermore, catalyst inks are know which use alcohols with a boiling point higher than 100 °C (US 5,871,552) or alkylene carbonates such as, for example, propylene carbonate (US 5,869,416) as solvent. Furthermore, DE 198 12 592 A1 describes an ink of two organic solvents A and B which are not miscible with each other. Monohydric or polyhydric alcohols, glycols, glycol either alcohols, glycol ethers and mixtures thereof are used as solvent A. Solvent B is a non-polar hydrocarbon or weakly polar solvent. A typical ink of this type (see example 1 in DE 198 12 592 A1) contains 13.4 wt.% of a Pt/C electrocatalyst, 67 wt.% of a 6.7% strength solution of an ionomer (Nafion) in propylene glycol (solvent A), 17.9 wt% methyl dodecanoate (solvent B) and 1.7wt% of caustic soda solution (10% strength). None of these catalyst inks contain any water, only organic solvents. 1.7 wt.% of sodium hydroxide solution (10% strength). These catalyst inks contain predominately organic solvents and only small amounts of water in the form of the sodium hydroxide solution. Due to the high proportion of solvent, they tend to ignite. The considerable emissions of organic compounds (solvents are "volatile organic compounds" = VOCs) is a problem with regard to occupational health and safety and the protection of the environment, in particular when mass producing components for fuel cells.